

MNC-6136
09 May 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau -- April

I. GENERAL

A. Nonessential bureau and Embassy personnel were sent home and tighter security measures were adopted around the two buildings in response to a 15 April demonstration planned by the Cyprus-Libya Friendship Association to denounce the overnight U.S. air raid on Libya. The bureau closed from 18 to 22 April when it appeared there might be a possibility of a direct attack against the FBIS building in the wake of the U.S. air attacks on Libyan targets. Emergency backstop plans were instituted by other bureaus.

B. The annual water-rationing plan providing Nicosia residences with city-supplied water 3 days a week went into effect at mid-month.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. In light of the 15 April U.S. air raid and rumors of an attempted "coup" within the Libyan hierarchy on 16 April, Nicosia and London bureaus coordinated efforts to ensure comprehensive coverage of monitored Libyan media. In order to circumvent the difficulties posed by a huge backlog of high precedence traffic at our switching center, much of this coordination was handled by phone with follow-up messages confirming the action taken. Nicosia bureau extended its operating hours 16-18 April and 22-28 April to place Tripoli Domestic Service on open-speaker watch from sign-on. Reception difficulties in London resulted in Nicosia effectively retaining primary coverage responsibility for this radio throughout the bureau's normal hours of operation. On two occasions, the bureau remained open beyond its scheduled closure time to cover Tripoli radio until signoff and Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland until advised reception at London had improved. With the situation between the United States and Libya remaining relatively quiet by month's end, and in view of the paucity of unique or meaningful items actually processed from the extended coverage of Tripoli Domestic Service, Headquarters concurred with bureau plans to revert to its normally scheduled coverage of this radio on 1 May.

B. Communications

1. The bureau required an Embassy fastcast on three occasions this month to clear backlogged incoming traffic. The bureau also scheduled two midnight shifts to eliminate other backlogs.

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C. Lateral Services

1. Tel Aviv Bureau was alerted to the interest expressed by Ambassador Boehm and the political officer in a statement by a northern Cyprus official on the new UN draft accord broadcast by Bayrak Radio's Turkish service on 4 April. Tel Aviv's quick response allowed the bureau to service this Embassy request promptly.

2. At his request, the Embassy RSO was apprised of reports pertaining to Libyan retaliatory plans in the wake of the 15 April U.S. air raid, including the attack against the NATO/U.S. telecommunications station on the island of Lampedusa. The RSO was also alerted to an item carried in the 30 April edition of the Nicosia ALITHIA, a pro-Democratic Rally Party newspaper not on regular bureau coverage, which cited a threat made by an unidentified caller against "Arab targets in Cyprus" if the two Cypriot students abducted in Beirut on 28 April were not released within 48 hours.

3. Embassy officials were informed of a 23 April alert from Headquarters that cited a CNN report quoting a Libyan official as saying that a terrorist attack could be expected in Europe within the "next few hours."

D. Technical

1. All equipment for our communications circuit upgrade to 150 Baud operation was received and checked in preparation for the scheduled cutover on 7 May.

2. The roof antenna layout for the new bureau was completed including negotiations with the main contractor.

3. Equipment received: 3 - Transtel Model Comscribe III C Multifont Printers. 1 - Magnasync Tape Degausser Model G-936.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

STAT

1. [] arrived on 2 April for a 3-month training TDY. STAT

2. [] served as bureau chief 4-29 April during [] trip to Washington to attend the bureau chief's conference and off-island leave. STAT

B. Visitors

1. [] of RECD departed Cyprus on 16 April following a TDY to oversee construction of the new bureau. STAT

2. [] FBIS Admin, visited the bureau on 28-29 April for brief orientation visit. STAT

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[]
Bureau Chief
Nicosia Bureau

ATTACHMENT: Production Report

Nicosia Bureau Production Report for April 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	241450
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	86190
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	849

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	8565.00 min.	22260.00 min.	117.00 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA

Beijing in

Persian to Iran

0

CLANDESTINE (LEVANT)

(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in

Arabic

12660

(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in

Arabic

5660

CYPRUS

Nicosia Domestic Service in

Greek

9700

Nicosia Domestic Service in

English

0

*Nicosia Television Service in

Greek

410

*Nicosia ALITHIA in

Greek

200

Nicosia Cyprus MAIL in

English

2000

Nicosia ELEVTHEROTIPIA in

Greek

1870

Nicosia I SIMERINI in

Greek

2070

Nicosia I SIMERINI tis DHEFTERAS in

Greek

0

Nicosia KHARAVYI in

Greek

1680

Nicosia KHARAVYI tis DHEFTERAS in

Greek

790

Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS in

Greek

1270

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS tis DHEFTERAS in Greek			250
*Nicosia Press and Information Office in English			280
*Nicosia TA NEA in Greek			310
*Nicosia THE CYPRUS WEEKLY in English			2690
EGYPT			
Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic	15750		
Cairo MENA in Arabic		51910	
Cairo MENA in English		5740	
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		17430	
GREECE			
* (Editorial Report in Greek)	2040		
Athens Domestic Service in Greek	17810		
Athens ATHENS NEWS in English			1160
Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			2940
Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek			2220
Athens KIRIAKATIKI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			730
Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			1960
*Athens TO VIMA TIS KIRIAKIS in Greek			310
IRAQ			
Baghdad in Persian to Iran	0		
LEBANON			
Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic	29510		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
*Beirut Domestic Service in English	400		
Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic	21830		
Beirut Ihdin Radio of Free & Unified Lebanon in Arabic	1060		
Beirut AL_NAHAR in Arabic			0
Beirut AL_SAFIR in Arabic			1580
Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English			0
LIBYA			
Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic	7200		
TURKEY			
Ankara YANKI in Turkish			0
* (Editorial Report in Turkish)			810
*Istanbul BULVAR in Turkish			360
Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish			750
Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish			0
Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish			600
*Istanbul GUNES in Turkish			1740
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			3420
Istanbul MILLIYET in Turkish			3990
Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish			820
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow in Greek to Cyprus	0		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	5540		